

W

W. Francis Wingrave,
Bookseller,
near Exeter Exchange

In the Strand.

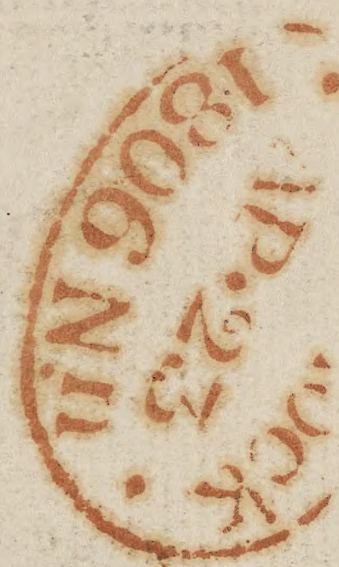
W. N

Seiner

Astron Royal

S. Maskelyne requests M^r. Wingrave,
as a good box can't be got for next
Saturday, to bespeak him one on
the ground floor about the end,
if the entertainment of the forty
thieves shall be acted, on next
Saturday evening, the third of
May.

Greenwich
Wednesday morning
April 23. 1806



510
p/10

DSI

Shugbury Park near
Daventry Northampton
shire Sept. 25. 1792

Sir,

Be pleased to read me the General
Evening Post of this date Sept. 25th of next
Thursday Sept. 27th under cover to Mr. of
George Shugburgh direction as above &
on next Saturday ^{29th} till the Saturday
following Oct 6th send it to me franked
at Mr. George Booth's Bar.^r at Cottesbrook
near Andle Northamptonshire. I am

Sir,

Your humble serv^t N. Matherlyne

Astronomer Royal

at Greenwich

DSI

To Nathaniel Pigott Esq.
Transit House
near Cambridge
Glamorganshire



DSI

5/7/43

Greenwich Oct. 7. 1779

Sir,

I now send you the eclipses of Jupiter's first satellite observed here proper for comparing with yours as mentioned in your letter of 26th of June last. I have not sent those of the other satellites as they are generally esteemed less certain than those of the first owing to their slower motion and the greater extent of the penumbra of Jupiter's shadow at their orbits. Indeed as there is only one immersion of mine corresponding to yours your determination of the longitude of your observatory from these observations will be very uncertain. I should think it better if you would wait another season or two to get a series of immersions of Jupiter's first satellite to compare with future observations that may be made here, as the longitude settled from immersions & emersions both is much more to be depended on than from one sort only. I suppose you intend to continue your observations at the same place as it is your country seat. You will then be better able to settle the longitude of your observatory which will give more satisfaction to the Royal Society. I congratulate you & your son's discovery of

a nebula in the Coma Berenices, which seems
by his account not to have been observed before.
I have not yet looked for it, my observatory
being out of order, but shall soon, & shall
take care to present his account of it,
& the determination of its place to the
Royal Society. I am

Sir,

Your very humble Serv^t.

N. Maskelyne

1777 Feb. 4th Im 14. 0. 22 -- $3\frac{1}{2}$ h. tel Air very clear
Dec. 16 Im 13. 0. 15 -- $3\frac{1}{2}$ h. --- Air very clear
1778 Feb. 18 Im { 8. 2. 24 -- $3\frac{1}{2}$ h. } the air was hazy
Feb. 25 Im 9. 56. 57 -- $3\frac{1}{2}$ h.
March 13 Im 8. 18. 3 -- $3\frac{1}{2}$ h. } Air pretty clear, but
the moon shone bright
1779 April 15 Im 13. 25. 36 -- $3\frac{1}{2}$ h. tel.
April 24 Im 9. 49. 23 -- $3\frac{1}{2}$ h. --- air a little hazy
May 16 Im 10. 4. 1 -- $3\frac{1}{2}$ h. --- a little hazy

P.S.

I have no observations made by other
Astronomers by me.

the perpendicular wires, being in a
 different plane. The wires are also
 finer; I suppose about $\frac{1}{1000}$ th of an inch in
 diameter. I now am to observe the stars
 pass in the middle space between the
 two parallel ^{horizontal} wires. Before the wire was
 visible sometimes to hide the star, or spoil
 the observation, when it passed too near it.
 I have also put the perpendicular wires
 farther off, ^{from each other} for the better observation
 of both the sun's limbs at all the five
 wires at all times of the year; the interval
 of passage of a star in the equator from
 wire to wire was before $30\frac{1}{2}$ "; it will be
 now $36\frac{1}{2}$ ", which will be much more convenient
 for the stars, allowing more time as well as
 for the sun, for which latter the interval
 between any two of the ten observations will
 never be less than 16 of time. I intend to
 alter the wires in my quadrant & all my instru-
 ments in order to secure the line of collimation
 from danger of alteration. Pray mention this
 matter to your son and Mr. Goodric. Your paper
 on the meteor of August 18th last year has been read
 at the Royal Society & will appear in the next
 publication, as well as your son's observation
 of the Comet. I am, Sir, Your most Obed^t. Serv^t
 Nevil Maskelyne.

⊕ 36" of time. N.B.

DSI

Greenwich August 19. 1784

Sir,

I have the pleasure to send you
 enclosed with this two plans of a new
 book of Logarithmic sines & tangents
 to every second of the quadrant. N.B.
 The proportional parts to tenths of a
 second will be added at the bottom
 of the page. Mr. Taylor the
 author is one of the computers of
 the nautical almanac, and a very
 accurate computer, as well as revis-
 or of the press. This work will be
 very useful to Astronomy, & will, I
 dare say, merit the encouragement
 it may receive from all lovers of
 the Science. The author rather
 needs the assistance of the subscrip-
 tions, as the expence will be great,
 & he is to receive nothing from the
 Board of Longitude till the work is
 Nathaniel Pigott Esq.

finished and published, which will
probably be in about $1\frac{1}{2}$ years or
two years. I beg you will show
it to your son, to whom I beg my
compliments, and it will give me
pleasure if one or both of you should
think proper to become subscribers.
Be pleased to give ^{one of} the ~~other~~ plans
of proposals to Mr. John Goodric.
~~about the printing of the same~~ I hope he
goes on successfully with his obser-
vations & studies, and that he
practices writing as well as reading,
in order that he may be the better
able hereafter to describe his obser-
vations or any improvements which
he may make in Science. I am
in hopes he too will become a
subscriber to Mr. Taylor. I shall be

glad if you can get him any
other subscriptions. I believe
your bookseller at York has the
proposals, in order to receive
subscriptions. I have found the
~~intervals of the perpendicular wires~~
of my transit instrument altered ^{their position} as
much ^{as} amounts to 1 or 2" of angle
or more. This I attribute to the friction
arising from their touching the horizon-
tal wire that crosses them. The middle
wire was by adhesion kept 2" or more out
of its true position, so that the intervals
of the wires were sensibly altered. On touching
the middle wire gently with a ^{small} slip of paper
the wire was released & altered its
position 2", & then notwithstanding any
farther touches from the slip of paper
obstinately kept ~~its~~ ^{it} returned always to
taken away the horizontal wire & instead
of it put two others each $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wide of the
center of the instrument, & sunk in deep notches
in the eye-piece, so that it cannot now touch

To The Earl of Buchan
at Kirkhill
By Edinburgh.
From the Astronomer Royal



Greenwich June 24. 1776.

My Lord,

I should not have delayed acknowledging the honor of your Lordship's letter so long, had it arrived in its proper time. When it arrived I was gone a little journey, & have not been returned above a few days, and since very busy, but yet considering what answer I could return to your Lordship's inquiry about the magnitude of Jupiter's satellites. I do not find that any thing has been done towards determining them better than was done by Cassini & Mr. Pound in the beginning of the 17th century, from observations of the time taken by the satellites to pass upon Jupiter's disc, or the interval between the external and internal contacts: by which their diameters were found $\frac{1}{20}$ th of that of Jupiter, only that of the 4th satellite was found $\frac{1}{14}$ th of

Jupiter's Diameter. I fear nothing can
 be done more certain in this climate; but
 perhaps something might in Italy, were
 the Astronomers to be furnished with
 telescopes much better than were used
 by those who made the observations
 above alluded to; but such telescopes
 cannot be procured except Mr. Dollond's
 invention was carried farther, and that
 seems a desperate matter at present,
 for want of good glass of the
 flint sort, so that they can get no
 large pieces to make a longer telescope
 of than any that has yet been made
 of this sort; viz 12 feet with 2 object
 glasses, or 46 inches with 3 object
 glasses. As to Saturn's satellites their magnitude has
 not been even guessed at, but we may have
 the present suppose them to bear the same
 proportion to their primary as Jupiter's satellites
 do. I can imagine that this philosophical description
 of your garden may be very curious & amusing.
 I am, Sir, Your most humble servant
 W. Maskelyne

To Mr. John Nourse
Bookseller to his Majesty
In the Strand.

Greenwich Dec^r 19th 1773

Sir,

Be pleased to deliver to
the bearer ^{Mr. Stephens} a book of Mayer's
Tables, and the Connaissance des
temps of 1766, and the nautical
almanacs of 1771, 1772 & 1773, and
1775 when published; all on account
of the Board of Longitude.

I am Your humble servant
W. Maskelyne.

Mr. Nourse —

DS

Greenwich Feb. 5. 1789

Sir,

This Morning I observed the Comet
about 5 o'clock viz. Feb. 4. 17. 6^h 1^m app. time in
R 264. 36 and Declination 66. 39' N about 2° West
of the pole of the ecliptic. Its daily motion
is 48 Northward in declination, and 53' retrograde
in R. Its motion has been continually increasing
from the first, & yet it seems to be going
off from the sun and earth. It is very faint
indeed, will soon be effaced by the moon
and probably will not be ^{capable of being} seen by me any more
after next Saturday morning. I am,

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant
N. Maskelyne —

NEVIL MASKELYNE DD FRHS 1752

D 1811 ASTRONOMER ROYAL 1764

Maskelyne (N.), author of the Nautical almanack.

Handwritten scribbles

AUTOGRAPHE

de

Maskelyne

Nevil

OBSERVATIONS

*L. A. B. 1 p. 4^e Greenwich, 5. 2. 1789
Bekanntgabe der Beobachtung eines
Kometen und Mittheilung der Ab-
weichung und Bewegungsaufklärung.*

Aus Sammlung d. H. Koewenfeld.

M A S K E L Y N E Nevil
Dr. Theol. /1777/. Nachdem er 1761 eine Rei-
se nach St. Helena /zur Beobachtung des Ve-
nusedurchganges/ u. 1763 eine nach Barbadoes
/zur Pruefung d. Harrison'schen Timekeeper/
gemacht, konigl. Astronom a. d. Sternwarte
zu Greenwich /Nachfolger v. Bliss/ v. 1765 b.
zu s. Tod. Mitgl. d. Royale Society s. 1758.
geb. 1732, Okt. 5., London,
gest. 1811, Febr. 9. Greenwich.
British mariner's guide etc. Lond. 1763.
Astron. observations made at the Roy. obser-
vatory of Greenwich begun in the year 1761.
Nautical almanack and astron. ephemeris,
50 vol. Ib. 1767-1815 /Von ihm gegruendet/.
Tables requidite to be used with the nau-
tical almanack. etc. Ib. 1767. An account of
the going of Mr. Harrison's watch etc. Ib.
1774. Tabulae motuum solis et lunae novae
et correctae etc. /T. Mayers Tafeln verbes-
sert/ Ib. 1770. Observations of the sun, moon
and planets /in Vince's Astronomy, Vol. III/.
A preposal for discovering the annual pa-
rallax of Sirius /Phil. Tr. 1760/. A theorem
on the aberration of the rays of light
refracted through a lens etc. Ib. 1761.
Account of the observations made on the

AUTOGRAPHE

de

Maskelyne

Nevil

OBSERVATIONS

transit of the Venus 1761, June 6, in the island of St. Helena. Ib. id. Observation on a clock of Mr. I. Shelton, made at St. Helena, Ib. 1762. Results of observations of the distance of the moon from the sun and fixed stars, made in a voyage from England to St. Helena etc. Ib. id. Obs. on the tides in the island of St. Helena. Ib. id. - Concise rules for computing the effects of refraction and parallax in varying the apparent distance of the moon from the sun or a star etc. 1764. On the equation of time and the true manner of computing. Ib. id. Astronom. observations at St. Helena. Ib. id. D made at the island of Barbadoes etc. Ib. id. Introduction to two papers of Mr. J. Smeaton. 1768. The length of a degree of latitude in the province of Maryland and Pennsylvania. - Obs. of the transit of Venus over the sun etc. 1769, June 3/ Ib. id. Descript. of a method of measuring differences of right ascension and declination with Dollond's Micrometer etc. 1771. Remarks on the Hadley's quadrant etc. 1772. De Luc's rule for measuring heights by the barometer reduced to the english measure of length etc. Ib.

1774. Longitudes of several places in North America. - A proposal of measuring the attraction of some hill in this kingdom. 1775. An account of observations made on the mountain Shehallien for finding its attraction. - Of a new instrument for measuring small angles, called the prismatic micrometer. 1777. Advertisement of the expected return of the comet of 1532 and 1661 in the year 1788/ Ib. 1788/ Concerning the latitude and longitude of the Roy. observatory at Greenwich etc. 1787. An attempt to explain a difficulty in the theory of vision, depending on the different refrangibility of light 1789. Obs. on the comet of 1793/ Ib. 1793/. An account of an appearance of light, like a star, seen lately in the dark part of the moon, by Thomas Stretton etc. 1794. On a new property of the tangents of three arches trisecting the circumference of a circle/ Ib. 1808/.

31047 2011

MASKELYNE, NEVIL (Royal Astronomer, 1765-1811, "a devil of a fellow"—Herschel). A.L.S., 2 pages, 4to, Greenwich, June 24, 1776. To the Earl of Buchan (David Steuart Erskine). *Good speed's*

"... considering what answer I could return to your Lordship's inquiry about the magnitude of Jupiter's satellites, I do not find that any thing has been done towards them better than was done by Cassini & Mr. [James] Pound... [diameters of satellites 1/20, 1/24, etc. of Jupiter. Need of new telescope, specifications of which he gives]... As to Saturn's satellites their magnitude has not been guessed at... I can imagine that this philosophical description of your gardens may be very curious & amusing... N. Maskelyne."

During his 46 years as head of the Royal Observatory, Maskelyne's observations, methods, & inventions made many important contributions in astronomy, optics, & navigation. [95] \$15.00

MASKELYNE, N.

Two a. l. s. to Nathaniel Pigott - one Oct. 7, 1779
the other August 19, 1784

✓ 116 MASKELYNE, N. TWO AUTOGRAPH LETTERS, signed, addressed to Nathaniel Pigott, dated Oct. 7, 1779, and Aug. 19, 1784. 4to. 7 pp. *Well* £3.15.

The first letter deals with his observations of the eclipses of Jupiter's first Satellite with data from 1777 to 1779. These observations are interesting with regard to Laplace's publication of 1784. The second letter deals with proposals for an improvement of the perpendicular wires of his transit instrument and his quadrant. He refers also to Taylor's Logarithms which he edited in 1782.

MASKELYNE, NEVIL (1732-1811) Astronomer Royal.

A.L. in the 3rd. person to Francis Wingrave, Bookseller.

lp. 4to. with address leaf. Greenwich: April 23rd. 1806. £2/2/-

Asking him to secure a good box "on the ground floor about the bend" for next Saturday if The Forty Thieves was to be performed.

FLETCHER-62

MASKELYNE (N., Astronomer Royal) ALS requesting that news papers be sent to him. Dated from Shugbury Park, near Daventry, 25 Sept., 1792. Single sheet, sm. 4to.

WALFORD-65

\$5.60 £2

MASKELYNE (Nevil, D.D., F.R.S., Astronomer Royal, 1732-1811) A.L.S., with address (N. MASKELYNE), Greenwich Decr. 19th 1773, to 'Mr. John Nourse, Bookseller to his Majesty, in the Strand,' 1 page 4to., £1, 10s

LONDON BOTHERAN

A request 'to deliver to the bearer, Mr. Stephens, a book of Mayer's [Lunar] Tables, and the Connoissance des temps of 1766, and the nautical almanacs of 1771, 1772 & 1773, and 1775 when published; all on account of the Board of Longitude.'

MASKELYNE, N. TWO AUTOGRAPH LETTERS, signed, addressed to Nathaniel Pigott, dated Oct. 7, 1779, and Aug. 19, 1784. 4to. 7 pp. £3.15.

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His Wife Wouldn't Obey Him

STANTON, HENRY B. (reformer, journalist). A.L.S., pp. 3, 4to, N. Y., Feb., 1840. To the Rev. Charles T. Torrey at Worcester, Mass. Stanton & Torrey both favored an Abolitionist party—

"... Yet ... I dissented from the project of calling a Convention to nominate a President absolutely. ... Rally ... all the friends of Constitutional Abolitionism. ... Burn this letter. ... H. B. Stanton."

Three months after this letter Stanton married Elizabeth Cady, feminist—an historic event: she insisted that the word "obey" be omitted from the ceremony. [111] \$7.50

SULLIVAN, LOUIS HENRI (designer of the skyscraper). A.L.S., one page, 4to, Chicago, July 25, 1907 (?). To Mr. Ferguson, thanking him for the book, River to River. [112] \$6.00

First English edition. Famous book on the applanation of the earth at the poles. "Maupertius adopted and explained Newton's propositions on attraction and on the figure of the earth; and he conducted an expedition to Lapland, for the measurement of an arc of the meridian, the result of which was fatal to the Cassinian hypothesis."—This copy comes from the library of the mathematical historian and astronomer S. Rigaud (1774-1839) who wrote an important work on Newton's Principia.

NEWTON'S INVENTION OF THE CALCULUS.

125 NEWTON, SIR ISAAC.—WALLIS, JOHN. OPERA MATHEMATICA. Oxford, e

Volume I only (of 2) 4to, plates. Vol 2 was published 1950.

451. PILCHER (R. B.) The Institute of Chemistry of Great Britain and Ireland. Founded, 1877
Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1885. History of the Institute: - 1877-1914. 1914

\$6.00

£2.2

5780 — L.S. (typescript), Norman ... , ... , Nov. 9, 1925, to Mr. Lewis [Me-
vere] Benjamin, 3 pages 4to., 15s

A long and interesting letter on the play 'Outward Bound,' discussing the problems of the play, 'a bold and ingenious study, which tries to emphasise the fact that the conditions after death are not so entirely dissimilar from conditions before.' ...

5787 LUBBOCK (Sir John William, F.R.S., banker and mathematician, 1803-65) A.L.S., 8vo.
Mansion House Street, London, 14 March 1860, to D. Higham, asking for particulars concerning

MASKELYNE

S.W.1.

DOES IT WILL
OULD NOT
ORDINARY

Second fold here —

U. S. A.

brary,